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Form for Evaluating Internet Information Resources

(NOTE: This form is not for evaluating productivity software/sites, simulation games/sites, or educational software/games/sites)

1. **URL of Web page being evaluated:** *http://www.wikihow.com/Speak-Confidently-in-Public*
 2. **Primary use (students, teacher, parent, other,...):** *students/teacher*
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Questions 3-10 are about the site that is hosting your page.

3. **Truncate the URL of the Web page. What is the domain name of the Web site?**
 - a. *http://www.wikihow.com/*
4. **What is the name of Web site?**
 - a. *WikiHow: _____ to do anything*
5. **What is the purpose or goal of this Web site?**
 - a. *"Imagine a world where anyone can easily learn how to do anything. A world where access to comprehensive step-by-step instructions in multiple languages enables billions of people to improve their lives, in both ordinary and extraordinary ways. That's the world we want to create. At wikiHow, a community of knowledge philanthropists[1] are collaborating to create this world. We are driven by a shared passion to create a high-quality collection of how-to guides. We keep improving each article until we think it has become the single most helpful set of step-by-step instructions available on that topic anywhere. While we recognize that this ambitious goal will take years to accomplish, we take pleasure in knowing that we already help millions of people every day."*
6. **What organization or individual created this site?**
 - a. *Mediawiki*
7. **What affiliations/purpose/audience do they have that might create a built-in bias toward the information? What is that bias?** (Note: every site has bias, you just have to be aware of what that bias is and be prepared to defend it or present information from other viewpoints.)
 - a. *This only shows one way of how to speak effectively using public speaking. There are numerous other ways that students could utilize but this caters to one specific type.*
8. **What other types of organizations link to this site?** (Using the Google search engine, type *link:* and the Web site address (example: *link:www.website.com*))
 - a. *open business blogs, wikipedia, youtube, health unlocked blog, Facebook, encyclopedia dramatica, amazon*
9. **Is there a way to provide feedback on the Web site and create an exchange with the author or Web site manager?**

- a. Yes by providing whether or not it was helpful and through the “help us” link

Questions 10-12 are about the specific page that has information for your project/unit:

10. **Who is the author of the page and does that person have valid credentials to present this information (the creator of the site is not always the author of a page within the site)?**
 - a. *Wikihow use their authors as well as the community to edit and upload information...not the best resource.*
11. **What other references are cited for the information presented?**
 - a. *A website called <http://www.shvoong.com/exact-sciences/1795567-public-speaking-lessons/> about public speaking from a blog.*
12. **How old is the material on the page? Is it current or outdated (copyright year is not the same as the last update)?**
 - a. *No finite day or year from last time published, but states over 170K viewers have read the article since the last edit.*

Final evaluation questions:

13. **Are there ads linked to the page or the site that might make this page inappropriate for your audience? Are the ads “sticky” or static? If there are no ads, how is this Web site paid for (where do they get their money)?**
 - a. *There are both types of ads, sticky and static. Some ads are to other articles and these articles contain sometimes explicit material.*
14. **Is there other content on the site that appears affiliated with the information you’ve selected that might make this page inappropriate (a Web site with great tutorials on how to make good movies with sections on how to make a documentary, a biography, an infomercial, etc. might also have a tutorial on making an inappropriate movie)?**
 - a. *The links to other articles could be deemed inappropriate.*
15. **How helpful is this site/page to you? Does it have the information you need and feel confident using?**
 - a. *This website was really helpful because it broke it down into three different types of learning. First they gave examples of sample speeches, then broke down the essential guide to giving a speech, then gave tips and any other feedback contributors found appropriate...awesome resource for MI's.*
16. **Describe how this Web site/page might be used in your project/unit:**

- a. *The goal of the page would be that students could view it when trying to compose their presentation or even script of the movie.*
17. **Reviewing your answers above, is this a good page/site to use for your project/unit? Why or why not?** (NOTE: Some questions above may not apply to your page; there is no rule as to how many “correct” answers are needed for a page to be good or what constitutes a “bad” page. You just need to be able to justify your choices and the information above can provide good support.)
- a. *I think that the website provides a lot of great resources for different types of learners, but because of the ads and related articles, I could be put on the line. If there was a way to take the information from the website and post in the the class wiki I’m creating or something along the lines of removing the information from the website format (giving credit where it’s due) I think it could be effective in the lesson and my classroom.*